

Specification Amendments

Please replace the following amended paragraphs:

At page 1, line 1 of the application, please insert the following paragraph:

PRIOR APPLICATION INFORMATION

This application is a national phase application of PCT application CA00/01187, filed October 5, 2000 which claims benefit of US Provisional Application 60/157,857, filed October 6, 1999.

At page 3, line 22 of the application, please insert the following paragraph:

Figure 2 shows paired t-test results comparing normal and skin lesion near-IR spectra. The mean normalized spectra (~~blue and red traces~~) are shown overlaid on p-plot traces (~~black~~). The optical density scale refers to the spectra, while the p-value scales correspond to the p-plot traces.

At page 3, line 26, please insert the following paragraph:

Figure 3 shows the difference visible/near-IR spectra from skin lesions. Difference spectra were obtained by subtracting each lesion-normal pairing for each group shown in Fig. 32. ~~Actinic keratoses (blue), BCC (red), actinic lentigines (green), dysplastic nevi (black), banal nevi (pink) and seborrheic keratoses (brown) are shown.~~ Dyplastic nevi and banal nevi are shown in Figure 3a; actinic keratoses and actinic lentigines are shown in Figure 3b; actinic keratoses and seborrheic keratoses are shown in Figure 3c; and basal cell carcinoma and seborrheic keratoses are shown in Figure 3d. The areas used for analysis of variance are ~~shaded~~ shown over the spectra.